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# foreign agriculture circular

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## Cocoa

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### IVORY COAST CONTINUES TO EXPAND COCOA PRODUCTION

The Ivory Coast presently shares with Brazil the number one position as the world's leading producer of cocoa beans. Cocoa comprises two-fifths of the Ivory Coast's foreign exchange earnings, and export revenues from cocoa in 1978 totaled a record \$965 million. Through Government assistance and subsidies, the cocoa industry has been undergoing an expansionary trend over the years and production is expected to continue to increase during the decade of the eighties. Production approximated a record 312,000 metric tons in 1978/79, and a larger outturn is forecast for the 1979/80 season.

The major export markets for the Ivory Coast's cocoa are the Netherlands, the United States, France, the USSR, and West Germany. The United States is the world's largest importer, and during 1978 the Ivory Coast accounted for \$248 million, or 18 percent, of total U.S. imports of cocoa beans and products.

**Producing areas.** The major cocoa producing areas are located in the southeastern and southcentral regions; however, new areas are being opened to cocoa development in the southwest. Unlike Brazilian cocoa areas, which are favored with well-distributed rainfall throughout the year, the Ivory Coast cocoa regions have distinct wet and dry seasons.

Cocoa from the main crop, which usually accounts for 85 to 90 percent of the total harvest, is gathered from late September through March, while the smaller mid-crop is harvested April through August. The average cocoa farm is usually between 2 to 5 hectares in size, although there are a few large farms producing on a plantation basis. The Government controls the producer price and for the 1979/80 marketing year this has been set at 300 CFA per kilogram (about 66.5 U.S. cents per pound).

The eastern cocoa areas of the Ivory Coast are in close proximity to the western producing areas of Ghana, and over the years, there has been considerable contraband movement of cocoa from Ghana into the Ivory Coast because of currency advantages. Abidjan is the leading port of export for cocoa because of good roads and rail transportation from the producing areas and its modern terminal facilities. Abidjan is also the key processing center for cocoa, where there are 4 factories with a combined annual grind capacity exceeding 100,000 tons.

**Ivory Coast: Distribution of Cocoa Area, 1975/76**  
(In hectares)

Department	Planted area	Area in Production
Abengourou.....	79,000	48,500
Abidjan.....	109,500	66,000
Aboisso.....	25,000	16,000
Adzope.....	54,500	34,500
Agboville.....	28,000	17,000
Biankouma.....	2,500	1,000
Bondoukou.....	54,000	30,000
Bouafle.....	37,500	23,000
Bouake.....	31,000	23,000
Daloa.....	98,500	48,000
Danane.....	8,500	3,000
Dimbokro.....	71,000	53,500
Divo.....	122,000	66,500
Gagnoa.....	75,000	48,000
Guiglo.....	3,500	1,000
Man.....	12,000	7,000
Sassandra.....	28,000	12,000
Seguela.....	500	---
Total.....	840,000	498,000

Source: SATMACI.

**Assistance and expansion programs.** There are three major cocoa expansion programs in progress,

two of which are being financed by the World Bank. The first World Bank project was started in 1971 and provided for new plantings of 18,830 hectares and for the rehabilitation of 38,000 hectares. This project is now about 80 percent complete. The second World Bank financed project was begun in 1975 and called for new plantings of 26,500 hectares, which has now been reached. A third project, which began in 1974, is being financed by the European Development Fund. This project had an original target of 9,000 hectares, but new plantings have now exceeded 11,000 hectares.

The impact of these projects has yet to be fully reflected in Ivorian production statistics, as output from them has barely begun. The new plantings are of improved hybrid varieties, which have much greater yields than the traditional types found throughout West Africa. The Government is also fostering increased production by offering farmers making new plantings a subsidy of 60,000 CFA (US\$280) per hectare. This payment comes in two installments, the first after planting has been achieved, and the second about a year later—provided the farmer has properly maintained the newly planted area. The subsidy program is administered by SATMACI, a state organization under the Ministry of Agriculture. SATMACI also administers programs for long-term credit to cocoa farmers, as well as providing subsidized seedlings and low-interest loans for fertilizer and spray machines and materials.

The Government's 5-year plan (1976/80) envisions cocoa production at 335,000 tons by 1980/81 and 480,000 tons by 1985/86. The plan for future area expansion beyond 1981 puts emphasis on increasing the proportion of production under more efficient industrial plantations, as only about 1 percent is on a plantation basis now.

Most cocoa research done in the Ivory Coast is carried out at research stations at Bingerville and Divo.

**Ivory Coast: Area Under Cocoa, 1960/61-1976/77**  
(In hectares)

Crop year	Area planted	Area in production
1960/61 .....	372,800	261,200
1961/62 .....	388,000	267,700
1962/63 .....	401,100	277,200
1963/64 .....	416,800	291,800
1964/65 .....	434,300	307,800
1965/66 .....	452,800	327,300
1966/67 .....	472,900	342,800
1967/68 .....	493,700	358,000
1968/69 .....	516,800	371,100
1969/70 .....	539,200	386,800
1970/71 .....	562,300	404,300
1971/72 .....	586,300	422,800
1972/73 .....	611,000	440,500
1973/74 .....	698,500	457,000
1974/75 .....	815,000	471,000
1975/76 .....	840,000	498,000
1976/77 .....	863,000	526,000

Source: SATMACI.

**Limiting factors.** Damage from capsid insects, which feed on the leaves and weaken the tree if infestation is great enough, can be controlled by proper spraying. Phytophthora pod rot is present, but is not of great importance in most years. Swollen shoot disease is not as prevalent as in Ghana, and can be controlled by cutting out diseased trees.

Many Ivorian farmers do not ferment and dry their beans properly, thus leaving them with rather high bacterial count and a tendency to mold or rot. The Government is trying to overcome this problem by educating farmers in proper methods and by setting up small regional drying centers in producing areas. Usually the low-grade beans are diverted to the domestic processing industry. However, on occasions these factories have difficulty in marketing cocoa products manufactured from a too-high percentage of low-grade beans.

**The processing industry.** The Ivory Coast's first cocoa processing facility was the Societe Africaine De Cacao (SACO) factory, which began operation in November 1964 at Abidjan. This plant is owned by the French Cacao Barry Group, and has an annual capacity of nearly 40,000 tons.

A second processing plant, the Industrie De Transformation Des Produits Agricoles (APISA), was opened at Abidjan in May 1974 with an initial grind capacity of 20,000 tons, which has been increased to handle 30,000 tons. This plant is Government-owned, but receives technical assistance from the Cacao Barry Group.

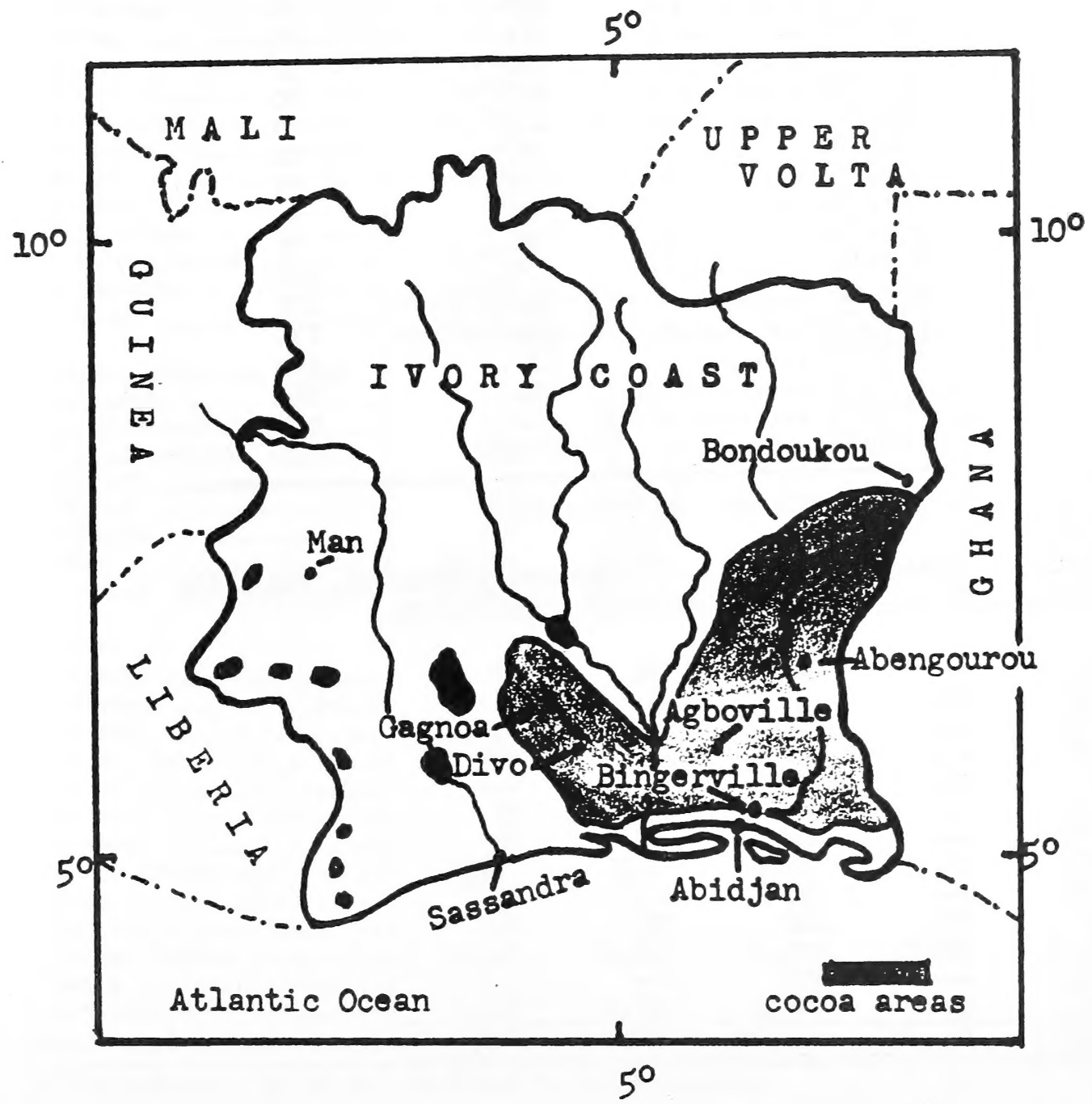
A third Abidjan plant, Chocolaterie Et Confiserie De Cote D'Ivoire (CHOCODI), opened in mid-1976 with joint ownership between the Cacao Barry Group and private Ivorian interests. The initial grind capacity of 10,000 tons was eventually increased to 20,000 tons. This facility is the only one producing finished chocolate products.

The fourth Abidjan plant, Societe Produits De Cacao De Cote D'Ivoire (PROCACI), opened in 1977 and is owned 60 percent by Ivorian interests and 40 percent by Interfood, a Switzerland based company. The grind capacity of this facility is placed at around 30,000 tons.

The total capacity of these factories is in excess of 100,000 tons annually. However, actual grindings are well below this level. The Government has been earning more revenue by exporting cocoa beans, and bean allocations to the processing industry has been generally limited to the poorer quality grades.

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# IVORY COAST COCOA AREAS



IVORY COAST: PRODUCTION TRENDS AND PRODUCER  
PRICES, 1960/61-1979/80

Crop year	Production 1,000 metric tons	Producer price CFA/kg
1960/61 .....	94	89/74
1961/62 .....	81	64
1962/63 .....	103	64
1963/64 .....	98	70
1964/65 .....	148	70
1965/66 .....	113	55
1966/67 .....	150	70
1967/68 .....	147	70
1968/69 .....	144	70
1969/70 .....	181	80
1970/71 .....	179	85
1971/72 .....	226	85
1972/73 .....	185	85
1973/74 .....	209	110
1974/75 .....	242	175
1975/76 .....	231	175
1976/77 .....	232	180
1977/78 .....	304	250
1978/79 .....	<u>1/</u> 312	250
1979/80 .....	<u>2/</u> 320-330	300

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Forecast.

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IVORY COAST: EXPORTS OF COCOA BEANS BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION, 1974-78  
(In metric tons)

Country of destination	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978 <sup>1/</sup>
Western Europe:					
Belgium .....	5,715	3,614	4,353	1,675	2,978
Denmark .....	150	200	200	50	(2/)
France .....	25,538	23,773	19,310	15,369	24,551
Germany, West .....	23,008	22,063	21,899	7,339	10,185
Gibraltar .....	---	---	---	75	(2/)
Greece .....	---	250	---	300	250
Iceland .....	---	---	150	25	(2/)
Italy .....	7,694	6,096	5,731	1,777	930
Netherlands .....	81,199	49,489	75,624	75,454	106,046
Portugal .....	---	---	---	174	(2/)
Spain .....	4,755	704	3,684	4,454	5,116
Sweden .....	300	---	---	---	(2/)
Switzerland .....	---	504	---	---	100
United Kingdom .....	3,924	1,683	4,031	7,433	2,375
Yugoslavia .....	4,525	1,850	2,377	1,551	200
Total .....	156,808	110,226	137,359	115,676	152,731
Eastern Europe and USSR:					
Bulgaria .....	---	3,604	1,001	1,001	(2/)
Czechoslovakia .....	300	1,802	1,101	1,710	2,605
German Democratic Rep. ..	---	---	---	200	(2/)
Hungary .....	---	995	---	---	751
Poland .....	601	2,356	6,732	5,355	6,519
Romania .....	---	1,001	---	---	(2/)
USSR .....	20,944	12,268	7,276	3,406	24,719
Total .....	21,845	22,026	16,110	11,672	34,594
Others:					
Algeria .....	50	356	95	---	(2/)
Cameroon .....	---	---	---	600	(2/)
Canada .....	1,226	---	501	---	(2/)
China, Taiwan .....	225	---	---	---	(2/)
Japan .....	---	---	325	100	180
Morocco .....	75	100	---	---	(2/)
Senegal .....	20	---	---	---	(2/)
South Africa .....	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	1,400	2,653
Togo .....	---	---	125	---	(2/)
Tunisia .....	---	450	450	200	200
United States .....	20,493	29,855	31,807	28,822	54,389
Zaire .....	---	---	275	---	(2/)
Not specified .....	4,558	4,511	4,362	21	220
Grand total .....	205,300	167,524	191,409	158,491	244,967

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2/</sup> If any, included in not specified.

Source: Official foreign trade statistics of the Ivory Coast.

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Commodity Programs, FAS, USDA

IVORY COAST: EXPORTS OF COCOA BUTTER BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION, 1974-78  
(In metric tons)

Country of destination	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978 1/
Austria .....	---	---	---	---	103
Belgium .....	601	---	---	---	20
Canada .....	100	470	200	210	125
France .....	3,697	8,647	2,634	3,484	4,269
Germany, West .....	---	---	---	30	1,007
Italy .....	550	250	100	---	(2/)
Japan .....	---	---	135	270	90
Netherlands .....	525	1,625	300	---	681
Panama .....	---	---	---	198	(2/)
South Africa .....	---	---	---	---	10
Switzerland .....	---	---	---	---	80
United Kingdom .....	200	380	50	48	748
United States .....	1,800	5,584	8,589	6,321	6,571
USSR .....	---	---	---	650	300
Yugoslavia .....	---	---	100	---	(2/)
Not specified .....	---	---	5	---	319
Total .....	7,473	16,956	12,113	11,211	14,323

1/ Preliminary. 2/ If any, included in not specified.

Source: Official trade statistics of the Ivory Coast.

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